EX PARTE REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE ISSUED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 307

NO AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO THE PATENT

AS A RESULT OF REEXAMINATION, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT:

The patentability of claims **1–18** is confirmed.

New claims **19–44** are added and determined to be patentable.

19. The method of claim 1 further comprising reading the map with the runtime engine to at least one of, read data from and write data to the relational database.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein the reading the map comprises loading information from the map at runtime.

21. The method of claim 1 further comprising creating an instance of a runtime engine class by the runtime engine to abstract relational database access functionality from the object oriented software application, wherein the relational database access functionality comprises reading and writing data.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein the creating comprises creating one instance of the runtime engine class by the runtime engine for every interface object instance.

23. The method of claim 19 further comprising generating at least one mapping model file containing at least some mapping information from the map, wherein the generating at least one mapping model file occurs prior to utilizing the runtime engine.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein reading the map further comprises loading information from one or more mapping model files by the runtime engine.

25. The method of claim 1 further comprising executing a query by the runtime engine to one of, retrieve or store particular data after detecting a need to one of, use or modify the particular data by the software application.

26. The method of claim 19 further comprising executing a query by the runtime engine to one of, retrieve or store particular data after detecting a need to one of, use or modify the particular data by the software application, wherein executing the query occurs after reading the map.

27. The method of claim 19 wherein utilizing the runtime engine comprises invoking at least one interface object after reading the map with the runtime engine.

28. The computer program of claim 10 wherein said runtime engine comprises at least one shared library.

29. The computer program of claim 28 wherein said at least one shared library includes executable loading code for the loading mapping information from the map.

30. The computer program of claim 28 wherein said at least one shared library includes executable abstracting code for abstracting relational database access functionality from the object oriented software application, wherein the relational database access functionality includes reading and writing data.

31. The computer program of claim 28 wherein said at least one shared library includes at least one dynamic link library (DLL).

32. The method of claim 1 wherein said utilizing is further defined as the object oriented software application invoking at least one interface object to request data from the relational database corresponding to at least one attribute of at least one object corresponding to a class associated with the object oriented software application.

33. The method of claim 32 wherein said utilizing is further defined as at least one interface object invoking the runtime engine to obtain data requested by the object oriented software application.

34. The method of claim 33 wherein said utilizing is further defined as at least one interface object calling a method on a runtime engine object.

35. The method of claim 33 wherein said utilizing is further defined as the runtime engine accessing the database to obtain the data requested by the object oriented software application.

36. The method of claim 35 wherein said utilizing is further defined as the runtime engine reading the map to determine at least one table and at least one column that needs to be accessed to obtain the data requested by the object oriented software application.

37. The method of claim 35 wherein said utilizing is further defined as the runtime engine invoking at least one database object to execute a database query.

38. The method of claim 33 wherein said utilizing is further defined as the runtime engine invoking at least one interface object to deliver the data requested by the object oriented software application.

39. The method of claim 1 further defined as creating the object model corresponding to the object oriented software application.

40. The method of claim 39 further defined as creating schema in the database based on the object model.

41. The method of claim 1 further defined as creating schema in the database.

42. The method of claim 41 further defined as creating the object model corresponding to the object oriented software application based on schema in the database.

43. The computer program of claim 10 wherein the runtime engine includes a runtime engine class for defining at least one method to abstract relational database access functionality from the object oriented software application, and wherein the relational database access functionality comprises reading and writing data.

44. The computer program of claim 43 wherein an instance of the runtime engine class is created for each interface object instance.

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